Alleged violence by Army Jawans near Bikaner

773. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY :
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK :
SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI :
SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:
SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the Hindustan Times', of 6th July, 1989 to the effect that a large number of Army Jawans based in Bikaner, armed with iron rods and lathis, went on a rampage at the Lalgarh railway station, near Bikaner and brutally beat up the Railway staff and passengers and snatched two rifles and 40 cartridges from the railway police on the 5th July, 1989 :

(b) if so, the details thereof :

(c) whether any inquiry has since been made in this regard : if so, the details thereof : and

(d) the action taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) to (d) There was an altercation on 4-7-1989 between some Army Jawans scheduled to leave by train No. 340 (Bikaner—Ambala Passenger) and some civilians/Railway Staff at the Lalgarh Railway Station, in Bikaner, Rajasthan.

A court of Inqury has been ordered by the Army authorities, to look into the incident. Rajasthan Govt. have also asked the Commissioner-cum-Home Secretary to inquire into he matter. Full facts would be known when reports of these inquiries become available.

Foreign components in 'Agni' Missile.

774. SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the percentage of foreign components used in the production of 'AGNI' missile :

(b) whether the USA or West Germany has protested against its indigenous production thereof : and

(c) what steps Government have taken to combat this propaganda against India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) The foreign components used for AGNI are estimated at less than 10% of the cost of the system.

(b) and (c) No, Sir : however the Government is aware of inferences that Indian Scientists acquired the technical knowhow for AGNI through their association with US Scientific Institutions or through import of West German technology. These allegations are false. The West German Government is also reported to have denied that their technology was used to develop the AGNI System. The Indian missile development programme is based on indigenous efforts. Government has publicly clarified this matter.

Re-constitution of Tele-communication regions

775. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state: